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Special Edition

Selecting correct retirement date avoids delay in receiving pension benefits

Because a member's eligibility to receive a pension benefit and the actual amount of that benefit are directly related to the member's years of qualifying service in a PERF-covered position, it is critical that PERF has accurate service histories for all of your employees considering retirement.

To avoid a delay in the processing of a member's retirement application, we request that you help identify the first day of the month for which the member is retirement eligible by completing the <u>Last Day in Pay form</u> during the member's exit interview and submit it to PERF via PERF Online.

If a member is eligible to receive pension benefits and waits to submit a retirement application, **PERF can only pay up to six (6) months of retroactive benefits**. For example, a member reaches the age of 65 by February 20, has 15 years of creditable service, and applies for retirement September 1. PERF can pay retroactive benefits back to March 1. If the same member chooses a November 1 retirement date, he/she would receive retroactive benefits back to May 1 only.

If you have questions, or would like additional information, please call toll-free 888-526-1687, or locally 317-233-4162.

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